



# The Fountain

Cape Haze Community Newsletter

Volume 12, Issue 3

May 2008

## CHPOA President's Letter

It's the end of another season in Cape Haze. We're entering the summer in pretty good shape: the place looks good; our budget seems about right. But one bad storm. . .

I'll be down here most of the summer, so if you have any special concerns, you can call me or e-mail ([medintzm@yahoo.com](mailto:medintzm@yahoo.com)). I hope it won't be necessary, but we never know.

I expect that some environmental battles will be fought while many of us are not here - I'll keep you up to date on that. (Updates are through e-mail so if you want to be included, let Marv know.) The proposed development at the old Mercabo facility is likely to be a central battleground, as will any buildings that attempt to avoid our Coastal High Hazard Area protections.

I'd like to welcome Ross Witschonke to the CHPOA Board as he has volunteered to fill the remainder of Marty Rosen's term.

Thanks to everyone for all your interest and help this year. Volunteers are who really make Cape Haze work.

Have a great Summer. See you in the Fall.

Marv Medintz  
CHPOA President

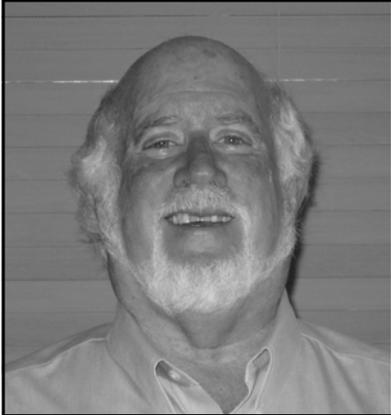
### \* \* \* IMPORTANT NOTICE \* \* \*

## Community Center Insurance Notice

"At the Spring Members Meeting, held at the CHPOA Clubhouse on Saturday, April 12, 2008, pursuant to notice, the Board recommended that due to excessive premiums on wind insurance that CHPOA not purchase wind insurance for the upcoming insurance year, and that instead, the Board investigate alternatives to wind insurance (such as high impact windows, improved roof fastening, favorable shift in insurance rates, etc.). The membership agreed, and resolved that the Board not purchase wind insurance, monitor wind insurance rates, and investigate alternate methods of wind protection, and report its findings to the members."

## Meet Your CHPOA Board Member

**Marv Medintz** – is currently serving his fifth year on the CHPOA Board and his second as President.



When someone had to leave the Board before their term expired, Marv was asked to take over the position and said, "Sure." He felt it was a good group of intelligent people concerned about their way of life and he was happy to be part of it.

After two years, Marv decided to run for the Board because he felt that once he'd started something, he couldn't walk away and he hoped to contribute to some success on the charges and challenges the Board was facing.

Marv grew up in Chicago and earned both his BA and law degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He practiced law, mostly corporate (but about everything except family law) for about 29 years. Then Marv went back to school to earn a Masters in Education at DePaul in Chicago.

Subsequently, he taught English to juniors and seniors at Providence-St. Mel, a private school in southwest Chicago. Providence-St. Mel has earned a place on the Chicago magazine "A+ Team," deserving high marks for teaching young minds. Of the private schools earning this distinction, "Providence-St. Mel is unique in that it is the only private school that serves predominantly inner-city African-American students. They have found a model for urban education that works" - and that is being copied.

Marv said it was very rewarding work and he's proud to say no student could graduate without being accepted to a four-year college or university. This made the students go through the application process and encouraged most of them to pursue some post high school education.

Currently, seniors are recruited by such prestigious universities as Tufts, Georgetown, Washington University in St. Louis, Notre Dame and MIT.

Marv and his wife, Percy, raised their two sons in Evanston, Illinois, a suburb of Chicago, where they lived until they made the move to Cape Haze. Their older son, Mike and his wife live in the Denver area. Mike is a police officer and security guard and Michelle is a teacher. Their younger son, Matt, and his wife live in Kansas City, Missouri. Matt is a Marketing Manager

with YRC International (formerly Yellow Freight) and Jasmine is a marketing consultant.

During the 1980's Marv and family enjoyed visiting Percy's parents at their Michigan home. Because they loved Michigan they bought a cottage in the southwestern corner, just a two-hour drive from Chicago. They spent many vacations there with their sons. The Medintzes still get to this retreat whenever they can, but they are now permanent Cape Hazers.

Marv and Percy had also been spending vacations in the Sanibel/Captiva area since the 1970's and knew they wanted to retire to southwest Florida. They started looking at real estate and found a brochure in a convenience store in Cape Coral. They saw a picture of the Cape Haze house, contacted the agent, and eventually toured the home and area. Both Marv and Percy immediately fell in love with the house, and its view and location.

They especially liked the slow-paced, relaxed atmosphere of the area. They bought in 1999, but due to work commitments, spent limited time here until they both retired and moved permanently to Cape Haze in 2004.

Once settled in their Spyglass Alley home, the Medintzes began attending Charlotte County Board of Commissioners meetings and became active participants, offering assistance toward solving problems facing our County. They perceived there were threats to our local environment and became concerned about development management. In order to protect both our environment and their property value, the Medintzes got involved. Eventually Percy decided to run for the Board of Commissioners.

Marv immediately became her campaign treasurer and helps with scheduling and strategy. For more information on the Cape Haze candidate, browse to [www.electpercy.com](http://www.electpercy.com). Marv's other interests include reading almost anything and 'surfing the net'.

When asked about his hopes for Cape Haze, Marv says, "I hope the Community can stay united in its resolve to protect the environment." Marv thinks the future of Placida Road will be decided within the next few years and he predicts, "It won't look like Miami, but will look like Sanibel with its traffic - and with 80-foot buildings."

Marv's hopes for our Community include a wish that we can work out the consistent funding problems. He would also like those who complain about an issue to step up to the plate and help resolve the situation. Marv says, "It's been rewarding being on the Board because the members are dedicated to the mission of making Cape Haze as good as we possibly can."

## Meet Your CHPOA Board Member

**Susan Butler** - has been on the CHPOA Board for two years, but she's been active in the Community much longer. Susan was an officer of the Cape Haze Women's Club and is still an involved member. Other volunteer activities include the Women of Windward and the Percy Angelo Campaign for Commissioner.

Susan and her husband had arranged a seasonal rental in Naples in 2000 which fell through and an internet search for a replacement put them on Palm Island. From there, the Butlers explored the area and fell in love with Cape Haze. They were attracted by the natural landscape, the quiet, and lack of traffic. So they bought an early Cape Haze home in Windward and moved in April 2001. Susan's husband passed away the following August, but she decided to stay. In order to meet people and keep herself busy, Susan earned her real estate license and went to work for Merrill Realty.

Susan grew up near Watertown, New York – almost into Canada - and earned her Masters Degree from Cornell University in Community Services Education. Her first job after graduating was teaching Home Economics in Sackets Harbor, New York.

Susan was in need of a summer job so her brother, who was volunteering at a school for the mentally retarded, suggested she teach there. Susan followed his advice, went to New York City, and began a career of service to others. She took on the challenge of writing the first de-institutionalization proposal in the country. Called Project Zero and funded by a federal grant, the aim of the program was to move mentally retarded people out of institutions and into more suitable living situations. This was a new concept in the 1970's and Susan was a leader in the movement. When Willowbrook, a New York State School for the mentally retarded, was exposed as an abusive place, Susan was recruited to help close it down and prepare community residences to accept the previously institutionalized individuals. This was a huge but very rewarding job.

After spending six years on these projects, Susan was ready to leave New York City and was again tapped for a challenging, groundbreaking position. She moved to Albany to head the newly formed Supplemental Security Income for Disabled Children Program. Here she defined what support programs were needed and set up State guidelines to identify individuals qualifying for this federal program; those who ordinarily slipped through the cracks - too wealthy for government programs but needing specialized help insurance wouldn't cover.

Susan's last position in the public sector was as a deputy commissioner for the New York State Prison System where she worked fourteen years. She was in charge of all inmate programming, including the Manufacturing System. This prison industry program

trained and employed inmates to produce several products ranging from eyeglasses to furniture and clothing. During her tenure every new inmate was assessed on a host of parameters including literacy, knowledge of English, and addictions. Then, those who needed to learn English and/or reading and writing to the 5th grade level were assigned to in-prison schools. Others were trained



to work in one of the prison industries. Every inmate had a job that hopefully would transfer to employment when they were released and several had outside jobs waiting for them. Susan managed to take this program from a money-losing to a profit-making situation.

In this position, Susan also combined the State prison system's several kitchens into one food preparation center which produced 100,000 meals a day. The meals were quick-chilled to last up to 45 days and were trucked to all State prisons. They even provided all the food for the 911 rescue and clean-up crews.

Although Susan has retired from the New York public life, she seems the kind of person who will never really retire. In addition to remaining with Merrill Realty, she has also recently started a business. Susan wanted an easier way to get into and out of her kayak from her seawall, so she designed a floating dock. It was such a success that she applied for a patent and started Access Associates LLC. They have shown the floating kayak launch at area boat shows to rave reviews. For further information, browse to [www.Kay-aKcess.com](http://www.Kay-aKcess.com).

In her spare time, Susan likes kayaking and walking, antiques and decorating, and gourmet cooking. She also loves spending time with family and especially enjoys her young great nieces and nephew. Susan's summer home, on a lake in Henderson Harbor, New York, provides an inviting family gathering spot.

When asked why she volunteered for the CHPOA Board, Susan says, "I was really flattered at being asked to join the Board and because I live across 775, thought it was important to be part of the Community." She goes on to say, "We all have a vested interest in keeping our Community a nice place to live and things don't just happen. I wish everyone would chip in; it doesn't have to be with joining the Board, it could be with road-side cleanups or attending social events; it's everybody's responsibility to give something back."

## What Are the Neighbors Up To?

### Winning Audubon Society Photography Competitions

Eva Furner was the star at the 31st Evening with Audubon Banquet held March 20 at Twin Isles Country Club. Eva swept the photography contest winning first, second and third with her photos "Courting Terns", "Red-tailed Tropic Bird", and "Great Horned Owl".

When Audubon members asked Eva to reveal her secret to getting such wonderful shots, she replied, "Patience". Congratulations, Eva, Cape Haze is proud of you.

*Photo shown is "Red-tailed Tropic Bird".*



### Designing A Dock To Ease Kayak Access

Susan Butler (see Page 3) wanted an easier way to get in and out of her kayak and couldn't find anything that would work with her seawall. So she designed her own solution - a floating dock system. This innovative idea was so popular with friends that Susan patented the dock and started a business. The docks have been very well received at local boat shows.



For more information, click to [www.Kay-aKcess.com](http://www.Kay-aKcess.com)

### Running for County Commissioner

Percy Angelo is a candidate for the Commissioners seat currently occupied by Tom Moore. Her extensive experience in business, government and the law makes her an excellent candidate for this position. And, it would be nice to have a neighbor representing our interests on the Charlotte County Board of Commissioners.

For more information, browse to Percy's website, [www.electpercy.com](http://www.electpercy.com). We wish Percy success in this endeavor.



## Book Club Sets Next Season Schedule

The Book Club is open to all Cape Haze neighbors and we invite you to join us in the fall. We meet monthly in the Community Center, 10:00 am, the second Tuesday, November through May.



The complete 2008 - 2009 discussion schedule is posted in the Community Center and on the Cape Haze website, [www.capehaze.org](http://www.capehaze.org). The first books on the schedule for this fall are:

November 11     *The Way the Crow Flies*  
by Ann-Marie MacDonald

December 9     *The Other Boleyn Girl*  
by Philippa Gregory

Members of the Book Club have posted some of our favorite books for summer reading on the bulletin board in the Community Center and on the Cape Haze website. Copies of the list are also available in the CHPOA library.

We continue to enjoy relaxed book discussions and this season we tried our hand at movie review. We enjoyed comparing book to movie and may expand this in the future.

Please join us—newcomers and guests are always welcome!

## Local Food Pantries Need Our Help

Charlotte County food pantries have seen a 70% increase in need compared to 2007, according to Keith Scroggins, Harry Chapin Food Bank board member and secretary.

Foreclosures, gas prices, layoffs, health-care and food costs and other factors of the faltering economy have caused people who have never needed aid to seek help to feed their families.

Southwest Florida food banks agree winter is better than summer – especially on families – because children are in school and getting up to two meals a day, and gasoline costs are typically lower. Summers typically see the least donations and the most need, especially if there's a hurricane.

So as you empty your cupboards, pack up your non-perishable, non-expired foods and donate them or consider a monetary donation.

A local food bank is Englewood Helping Hands at 474-5864, 700 E. Dearborn St., behind the Englewood Methodist Church. Hours are Monday through Thursday, 10:00 am to 2:30 pm.

Other area food pantries include Charlotte County Department of Human Services at 833-6500, 512 E. Grace in Port Charlotte, open Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm and the Harry Chapin Food Bank of Southwestern Florida at (239) 334-7007 or [www.harrychapinfoodbank.org](http://www.harrychapinfoodbank.org).

Thank you.

## Around Cape Haze Flowering Royal Palm

Picture taken May 6, 2008



# Cape Haze Women's Club

Would you believe another winter season is winding down? It's time to "hunker down" for the high humidity and hopefully some much needed rain! However, Jim Cantore, stay away from Cape Haze!!!!

**So what happened with the CHW** and all the social functions for CHPOA? Lots!!!

Fifty neighbors enjoyed a visit from Alfred Vanderbilt, eight ladies contributed at next year's Planning Meeting and fifty enjoyed our luncheon with Women of Windward. A great time was had by all at the Spring Fling Oldies but Goodies Night, attended by almost 70. Thirty-five attended the Boat Rendezvous to Burnt Store Marina and twenty-one joined us for the CHW Annual Meeting and luncheon.

At the last meeting in **April**, a motion was introduced to amend our bylaws so that our year will be more in line with CHPOA's calendar. The motion will be voted on at the next regular business meeting, which will be in November. With this change comes a realignment of other dates such as the annual meeting, election of officers etc. The changes will also give outgoing officers time to work with new officers while they're "getting their feet wet".

Hopefully by the next issue of *The Fountain*—there will be new window treatments at the Community Center. And maybe something interesting as we look up and around?

**We're planning an exciting year for the upcoming season.**

Lots of new ideas and programs are being planned including a talk from a local author, a trip to ECHO in Fort Myers, a speaker from Mote Marine, and a *So Crafty* program where your crafts will be shown, demonstrated and perhaps later some specific classes. There may be something special at the **Fall Together Night** as we welcome people back.

Plus lots more!!!

Help needed—**Teams**, yes; teams are needed to coordinate the happenings. So ladies if you would form a team and say, "**Wow, my team would love to take charge of \_\_\_**" That would be great—no, it would be stupendous. Come on ladies, let's broaden the base of coordination teams. Contact Fitz.

Don't forget our second Friday of the month **Socials** from 5-7 pm during the summer months. If you would like to host one please contact Fitz.

Not as a Women's Club Meeting, but as a gathering of women from Cape Haze and Windward, there will be a **lunch sometime this summer**, just a friendly get together. Want to be included? Contact Fitz.

Everyone in Cape Haze is invited to attend "**Treasure Hunts**" on 775. Well that is what one helper just renamed the **Road Side Cleanup**. Would you believe money was found and it wasn't change??!!! Watch for the signs at the entrances to announce when--usually one a month in the summer.

All CHPOA women are eligible to be a member of CHW. Dues, \$20 a year, are due now to treasurer Bev Martin. Come on ladies can we have 100% participation?

So what was forgotten? A big **THANK YOU** to all for your help and participation for the past year. . . and looking forward to an even better 08-09 season!!!

During the summer months check [www.capehaze.org](http://www.capehaze.org). for more info as plans gel.

So until next time. . .

Mary Lou Fitzgerald or "Fitz"  
Cape Haze Women's Club President  
[mlzigfitz55@comcast.net](mailto:mlzigfitz55@comcast.net)  
(941) 697-6228

## Upcoming Events

- May 1                      Women's Club Dues Due - \$20 to CHW  
To Treasurer Bev Martin
- May 9                        Friday Night Social  
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM - Community Center
- May 13                      Book Review - *The Daughter of Time* by J. Tey  
10:00 AM - Community Center
- May 13                      CHPOA Board Meeting  
4:00 PM - Community Center
- June 13                     Friday Night Social  
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM - Community Center
- July 11                      Friday Night Social  
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM - Community Center
- August 8                    Friday Night Social  
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM - Community Center
- September 12            Friday Night Social  
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM - Community Center
- October 10                Friday Night Social  
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM - Community Center
- November 11              Book Review - *The Way the Crow Flies*  
10:00 AM - Community Center
- November 15              CHPOA Special Membership Meeting  
10:00 AM - Community Center  
9:30 AM - Coffee & Socializing

Watch for information on a summer "out to lunch" for all  
Cape Haze and Windward women.

Stay informed, check the Cape Haze website  
[www.capehaze.org](http://www.capehaze.org)

## **“Don’t Quote Me”**

- If you don’t read a newspaper you are uninformed. If you do read the newspaper you are misinformed. Mark Twain
- A government big enough to give you everything you want, is strong enough to take everything you have. Thomas Jefferson
- Government’s view of the economy could be summed up in a few short phrases: If it moves, tax it. If it keeps moving, regulate it. And if it stops moving, subsidize it. Ronald Reagan
- Talk is cheap...except when Congress does it. Unknown
- The inherent vice of capitalism is the unequal sharing of the blessings. The inherent blessing of socialism is the equal sharing of misery. Winston Churchill
- Foreign aid might be defined as a transfer of money from poor people in rich countries to rich people in poor countries. Douglas Casey, classmate of Bill Clinton at Georgetown University.

## ***The Fountain***

is published January, March, May, and November.

All articles, letters, photographs, and “Upcoming Events” received by deadline will be considered for publication.

Text submissions should be Microsoft Word files.

Photographs should be .jpg files of at least 400kB in size.

Text and photographs should be attached to e-mail with “Fountain Submission” in the subject box, and forwarded to [NancyBue@aol.com](mailto:NancyBue@aol.com).

Hard copy submissions may also be considered.

**November Deadline is  
November 3, 2008**

# *The Fountain*

Cape Haze Property Owners Association  
P. O. Box 690 Placida, FL 33946

**Community Center  
Insurance Notice - Page 1**

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